

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/518,954

Examiner

Eric Culbreth

Applicant(s)

BLESS ET AL.

Art Unit

3616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 4/11/07 amendment.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-13.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☒ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☒ Other Approved Figure 3.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

- a. (The foreign references submitted on 3/26/07 were listed on the enclosed form PTO-892 in order to make them properly of record.)
- b. On page 5, fourth paragraph, line 2 "(Fig. 1)" was changed to: --Figs. 1a and 1b--.
- c. In claim 1, line 2 after "driving shaft (10)" was inserted: --with an axis (X)--, because there is no antecedent basis for the axis X recited later in the claim.
- d. In claim 3, line 1, "or claim 2" was deleted because this was not part of claim 3 as examined (see claims filed 12/17/04) and to obviate any 112 issues (i.e., lack of antecedent basis, double recitation).
- e. In claim 3, line 2 "RI" was changed to: --Ry--, in order to be consistent with claim 1.
- f. In claim 3, line 3 after "driven shaft (30)" was inserted: --to an offset of an axis of--, in order to obviate a 112 issue (otherwise, it is not clear what the ratio of line 2 of the claim is between).
- g. In claim 4, line 1 "any of the claims 1 to 3" was changed to: --claim 1--, as the original claims did not have multiple dependency and to eliminate improper multiple

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dependency (multiple dependent claims cannot depend from other multiple dependent claims; as written currently, claims 4-11 would all be objected to as improper multiple dependent claims because they would have dependent from multiple dependent claim 3).

- h. In claim 5, line 1 "any of the claims 1 to 4" was changed to: --claim 1--.
 - i. In claim 6, line 1 "any of the claims 1 to 5" was changed to: --claim 1--.
 - j. In claim 7, line 1 "any of the claims 1 to 6" was changed to: --claim 1--.
 - k. In claim 8, line 1 "any of the claims 1 to 6" was changed to: --claim 1--.
 - l. In claim 9, line 1 "any of the claims 1 to 7" was changed to: --claim 1--.
 - m. In claim 10, line 1, "any of the claims 1 to 9" was changed to: --claim 1--.
 - n. In claim 11, line 1, "any of the claims 1 to" was changed to: --claim 1--.
 - o. In claim 11, line 2 "10" was deleted, and "R," was changed to: --R1--.
2. The following changes to the drawings have been approved by the examiner: In Figure 3, a lead line was added for reference character n as circled on the enclosed drawing. The other replacement sheets were approved. In order to avoid abandonment of the application, applicant must make these above agreed upon drawing changes.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Eric Culbreth whose telephone number is 571/272-6668. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, 9:00-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paul Dickson can be reached on 571/272-6669. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Eric Culbreth
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3616

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REPLACEMENT SHEET

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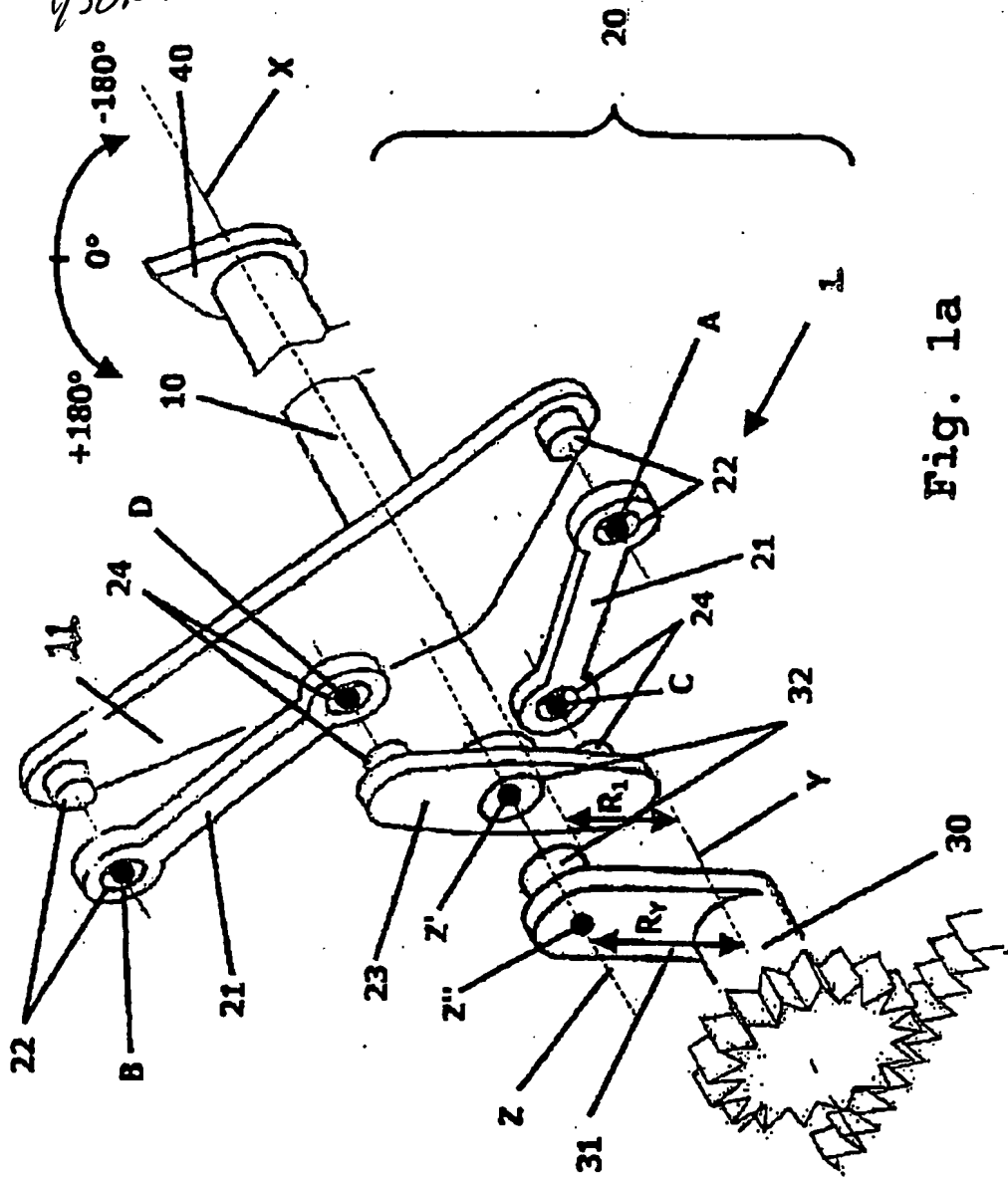


Fig. 1a

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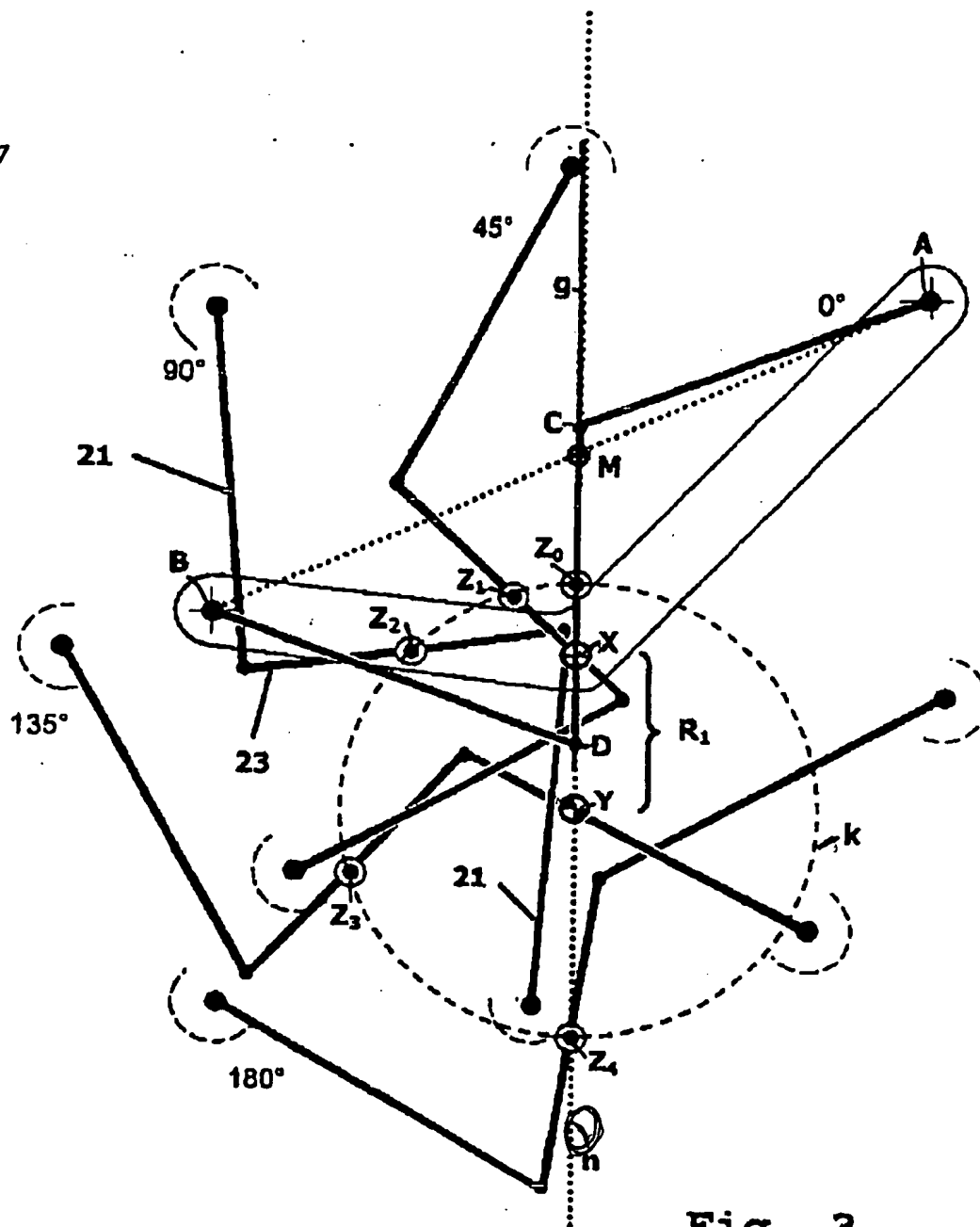


Fig. 3